

WASStateC.O.P.S.
Saturday, December 5, 2020

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Zoom / Phone Meeting

1. OPENING:

Meeting opened by President Penny Brenton at 11:00 am

Call to Order

Opening Remarks/Comments by Penny Brenton

Bingo Game Rules Explained by Brenda Donner

Invocation by Chaplain Russ Guppy

Roll Call of Voting and Nonvoting Board Members, and Introductions

Board Members (voting)

<i>President:</i>	<i>Penny Brenton</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Marty Jordan</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Rebecca Humphrey</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Leslie Merklin-Barber</i>
<i>Immediate Past President:</i>	<i>Ernie Barber</i>

Board Members (non-voting)

<i>Police Liaison:</i>	<i>Frank Kampsen</i>
<i>Suicide Liaison:</i>	<i>Julie Zielinski (not present)</i>
<i>Training Coordinator:</i>	<i>Judith Secor (not present)</i>
<i>Social Chair:</i>	<i>Linda Levay (not present)</i>
<i>Eastern WA liaison:</i>	<i>Jessica Fitch (not present)</i>

Other Attendees

Brenda Donner

Introduction of 4 New Attendees

Julie O'Connor

Lives in Spokane; her father was Deputy Joseph O'Connor, Spokane County Sheriff's Department, EOW 08/13/1961; he died when she was just 2

Tom Tufte

Deputy with the Grant County Sheriff's Department

Jim Fuda

Crime Stoppers Global Solutions, Director of Law Enforcement crimes

Chaplain Stan Bradley

Works for Suquamish Tribal Police, North Kitsap Fire Dept. and the Kitsap County Emergency Management as a Chaplain



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Consent of the Agenda

Agenda was electronically forwarded to the voting and non-voting Board members and Chapter members (limited distribution) prior to this meeting. The agenda was also made available to those attending the meeting and did not receive one electronically. Motion to Accept, hearing no objection, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Minutes from last meeting

Approval of the previously reviewed Minutes from the September 2, 2020 meeting. Penny called for voice approval of the Minutes to ensure formal approval on the record. Marty Jordan moved, Frank Kampsen seconded, motion passed unanimously.

2. OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Secretary's report – Rebecca Humphrey

Minutes of September 2nd meeting were previously approved via email and forwarded to National C.O.P.S., and provided to everyone who requested a copy via email.

Treasurer's report – Leslie Merklin Barber

\$33,840.93 as of December 4th, 2020 in BECU Checking

\$10,010.08 as of December 4th, 2020 in BECU Savings

\$11,079.22 as of December 4, 2020 in Bank of America Checking

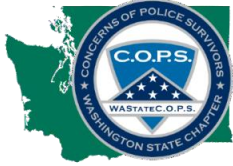
Bank of America Savings – Closed

The \$10,000 from Behind the Badge Foundation was deposited into our BECU Savings account.

The chapter continues to receive direct deposits into the OLD Bank of America account. The State of Washington, Port of Seattle, and King County employee giving campaigns are in the process of updating our checking account information to BECU. Leslie anticipates having the Bank of America account closed by the end of the fiscal year.

Brenda Donner moved, Marty Jordan seconded, and motion passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report.

Training Coordinator – Judith Secor submitted her resignation via email, prior to this meeting, as the state's Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) is no longer employing outside instructors.



2 OFFICERS' REPORTS, continued:

Suicide Liaison – Julie Zielinski was not in attendance but she sent a report to be read at the meeting. She stated that Laurie Putnam and Shelley Jones resigned from National C.O.P.S. to start a new non-profit, [Survivors of Blue Suicide \(SBS\)](#). Julie served on the SBS founding committee, and currently serves on the advisory committee of SBS. She will be able to continue to work with both WASStateC.O.P.S. and SBS, as there is no conflict of interest between the two non-profits.

Communications – Brenda Donner

- Thank you to Jessica Fitch and her family for sending out the Christmas cards and all of the other memorial cards.
- Thank you to Shannon Garland for sending the cards to the Marshall, Reynolds, and Fitch families for the EOW anniversary of Mike Marshall, Omak PD, EOW 03/26/1998.
- Brenda reminded attendees that Jessica Fitch is the daughter of Mike Marshall. Her maternal grandmother Margaret Reynolds had asked several years ago to do something, but since she could not hold an office, the idea of the act of sending out “Remembrance Cards” was born. Mike’s widow, Rhea, took over and now Jessica is involved. And it’s a family affair – Rhea makes the remembrance cards and Jessica sends them. Jessica is now getting her children to help, a 4th generation of the Marshall family generosity to WASStateC.O.P.S.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None presented.

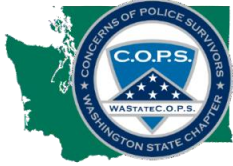
4. NEW BUSINESS:

2021 National Police week

NPW may look very different from past years. Line of duty deaths from 2019 and 2020 will be honored in 2021. 2021 NPW’s numbers will be ASTOUNDING and the chapter will need to consider how the chapter will allocate funds for NPW. There is a total of about \$50,000 in our bank account; however, those funds cannot be completely used up as that is not fair to people coming in the future. The subject of reimbursements for NPW and retreats will be voted on at the March 27, 2021 chapter meeting.

Retreats

As of now all retreats are going forward in 2021 except Outward Bound.



4. **NEW BUSINESS, continued**

Spring chapter meeting

It is hoped that the March meeting can be in person possibly at the Kirkland PD or at a church that would be larger for the purposes of social distancing. Next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2021.

January 9th – Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Still planning on blood bank donations through Bloodworks Northwest on the west side of the state, and the Red Cross in Walla Walla. It was suggested to take cards to your local PD as a show of appreciation on January 9th.

5. **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:**

Christmas Card Reimbursement to Brenda Donner - up to \$200

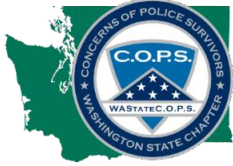
Brenda Donner ordered cards for Jessica Fitch to send to members when we ran out, paying out of her own pocket. Rebecca moved to reimburse Brenda up to \$200, Marty seconded, the motion unanimously passed.

Penny reported that Chaplain Russ Guppy will speak about how celebrating holidays after the loss of an officer or other family member, combined with not having close family gatherings at important times can be very difficult. She also asked us to think of a speaker for a lighter topic for our March meeting.

6. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

Presenter 1

Jim Fuda from 'Crime Stoppers Global Solutions' spoke about international crimes such as Human Trafficking, Terrorism, Illicit Trade, Arms Dealing, Drug Smuggling, Cyber Crime and Bank Fraud. He focused specifically on the topic of Child Sex Trafficking for the purpose of today's meeting. The Ukrainian scandal and then COVID-19 hit, so their overseas work has temporarily stopped. By Q2, 2021, they hope to open the program in Belgrade which will cover all of the eastern European countries. [Jim's presentation and his contact information have been uploaded to our website.](#)



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6 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, continued

Presenter 2

Chaplain Russ Guppy has been a part of C.O.P.S. for many years. He retired from a 30-year career as a Police Chaplain about four years ago. Russ spoke about grief and struggling over the holidays, how that looks different for everyone and what that can look like after losing a loved one. Russ lost his daughter to cancer last year and spoke about his family's personal journey through that grief process. He said he understands a LEO loss is very traumatic and very different, but there are some parallels to what his family has been going through. There was then a group discussion around this topic.

Russ recommended a book by C.S. Lewis, "A Grief Observed". It's about the author, who married late in life at age 60 and then soon after lost his beloved wife to cancer. He talks about how he was very angry with God, how he dealt with that, how his "Christian" friends treated him, what was helpful and what was not. "The Shadowlands" is a beautiful powerful movie made from this book that talks about the pain of death by someone who is deeply loved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Bingo game winners were announced (Marty Jordan, Tom Tufte, Cheryl Jordan). Jim Fuda offered prizes of Washington's Most Wanted baseball caps, which will be delivered to winners at the next in person meeting. In the meantime, Brenda has the caps.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Julie; seconded by Marty, and passed to adjourn at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Rebecca J. Humphrey
Secretary